



PITTSBURGH TEAM IN NEED OF STEADY PILOT TO CHART ITS COURSE

By RALPH S. DAVIS.

PITTSBURGH, July 14.—Although more than a week old, the retirement of George Gibson as manager of the Pirates is still being discussed by local fans. Many of them are at a loss to account for it, and are inquiring the reason of everyone they meet, whom they think might know anything about the situation.

Gibson left the city without saying a word, other than the brief statement he made to the players on the day he resigned. At that time he told them that he had quit "for the best interests of all concerned."

He might have done a lot of talking if he had been so minded. But he took the medicine like a man, and did not open his mouth. He might have done like other managers before him have done when they have been compelled to retire under fire. He might have defended himself, and shown to the satisfaction of nearly everybody that he was not wholly responsible for the predicament in which the club found itself.

He could have told his players a lot of things, and he could have told the fans a lot more. He could have laid bare the conditions which existed on the team a year ago, and which are being repeated now on a smaller scale, according to the best information obtainable.

He might have told of a certain player who solemnly promised last winter, before he was tendered a 1922 contract, that he would conduct himself properly and give his best efforts to the club, who has failed to keep that promise.

Gibby could have told of an incident which happened on the Pirates' eastern trip not long ago, which went far to show the attitude of a certain member of the team who has been treated mightily well by the club and the fans and who has not appreciated the treatment.

When Bill McKeechne was elevated to the managerial throne he said briefly that he would do the best possible with the club, and that he was confident the players would give him their best efforts.

George Gibson expressed the same thoughts when he took over the reins. For a time he was given the co-operation so necessary to baseball success, but the time came when certain members of the club did not work with and for Gibson as they should.

Denials may be made by officials of the club, but the fact remains, nevertheless, that there were cliques on the Pittsburgh roster all of last season, and it is just as true that there are factions within the ranks now.

There is another player on the team—a youngster, who came here with prospects, that were considered bright, and who has failed to come up fully to expectations, who might, if he were seeking alibis, blame his predicament on the fact that he has never been encouraged by the older heads.

He, too, has been let more or less severely alone, has been compelled to figure things out for himself, and has blundered at times.

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Baseball Standings

AMERICAN.	W. L. Pct.
St. Louis, 49 34 .590	Wash., 35 42 .475
New York, 42 36 .538	Cleveland, 39 42 .479
Chicago, 42 39 .519	Phila., 34 44 .438
Detroit, 43 42 .506	Boston, 35 47 .427

Yesterday's Games.	Score
Washington, 1; Chicago, 1 (called in 4th inning, rain).	
Philadelphia, 9; Detroit, 4.	
Cleveland, 4; Boston, 2.	
St. Louis at New York (postponed, rain).	

Today's Games.	Score
Chicago at Washington.	
Cleveland at Boston.	
Detroit at Philadelphia.	
St. Louis at New York.	

NATIONAL.	W. L. Pct.
New York, 48 27 .640	Brooklyn, 41 40 .506
St. Louis, 42 34 .556	Pittsburgh, 35 42 .450
Chicago, 42 35 .544	Phila., 34 44 .438
Cincinnati, 42 40 .512	Boston, 35 47 .427

Yesterday's Games.	Score
Chicago, 5; New York, 4 (12 innings).	
Boston at Pittsburgh (wet grounds).	
Brooklyn, 4; Cincinnati, 3.	
St. Louis, 1; Philadelphia, 0.	

Today's Games.	Score
Philadelphia at St. Louis.	
Brooklyn at Cincinnati.	
New York at Chicago.	
Boston at Pittsburgh.	

High And Low

AMERICAN.	S. M. W. T. F. S. T.
New York, 12 0 2 4 13	
St. Louis, 12 0 2 4 13	
Chicago, 9 8 10 1 4 34	
Cleveland, 9 8 10 1 4 34	
Philadelphia, 8 9 10 1 4 34	
Boston, 8 9 10 1 4 34	
Detroit, 8 9 10 1 4 34	
Washington, 8 9 10 1 4 34	
Pittsburgh, 8 9 10 1 4 34	
Totals, 56 31 32 44 19 163	

NATIONAL.	S. M. W. T. F. S. T.
New York, 22 4 5 4 36	
Philadelphia, 2 7 0 11 0 21	
Brooklyn, 8 1 4 1 4 15	
Cincinnati, 9 11 6 4 2 33	
St. Louis, 6 4 3 4 1 18	
Pittsburgh, 7 1 3 11	
Totals, 35 37 31 32 17 170	

when a word of advice might have set him right, and helped him out of a hole.

It is true that the Pirate lineup is not made up altogether of first class players. There are positions being filled by men who are hardly of major league caliber. And it is also true that fanism placed too high an estimate upon some of the talent.

Even considering all that, however, the results which have been obtained have not been as good as they might have been, had there been a feeling of helplessness, a desire on the part of every man on the squad to do something for the other fellow as well as for himself, and to subordinate his own interests at all times to those of the club as a whole.

As intimated above, the foregoing statements will doubtless be denied by club officials, but they are true, and the same is true of the fact that the club is in a difficult matter to get a ball player to talk about his team, for he never knows what the result will be. If all the members of the Pittsburgh team would tell what they know about internal conditions on the club, many of the fans would be astounded, but there would be little surprise thereafter at the fate of the club, regardless of what it may turn out to be.

The players are a good bit like Gibson. They will not talk. Gibson went his way, probably feeling that he had never had a real chance to show what he could do, and some of the players are going along, disgusted with conditions, more than one of them hoping for the day when he can get into other surroundings.

It is going to take a stern hand to bring order out of the chaos that exists at present. Whether Bill McKeechne is the man to accomplish the transition remains to be seen. Bill knows baseball, but he can't get very far here unless he has for his back, backed up by the unequivocal support of the clubowners, to get rid of a certain element which was partly wiped out last winter, but which is not yet all gone.

It is going to take drastic measures to transform the Buccaneers. It will require not only the acquisition of new talent, but the ousting of a few players who have attempted for more than a year to run things with a high hand.

Gibson made mistakes. And McKeechne will make mistakes. Every manager does. But no manager is entirely to blame for everything that takes place on a ball club. Players who violate their contracts in letters and in spirit are largely responsible for managerial troubles.

It is not always possible to get rid of these trouble makers at once, but they must be let out before the club can rise to real heights.

It has been hinted that there are to be further changes here. Fans hope that they will not be too long delayed. There is little chance of a fine record during the present season, but there are other years ahead, and the best time to start entirely rebuild the club is right now.

Indoor Sports



Big League Stars Who Are Scrapping For Top Honors

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Leading Hitters.	Player-Club.	G. A. B. R. H. Pct.
Slater, Browns, 83 345 78 145 420		
Cobb, Tigers, 72 283 59 112 390		
Hornsbey, Card., 83 324 72 128 393		
Hollock, Cubs, 81 310 42 113 365		
Speaker, Indians, 72 268 51 97 362		

Home Run Sluggers.	Player-Club.	Runs.
Hornsbey, Cardinals, 23		
Walker, Athletics, 21		
Williams, Browns, 21		
Heilmann, Tigers, 16		
Ruth, Yankees, 14		

Leading Run Makers.	Player-Club.	Runs.
Hornsbey, Browns, 78		
Hollock, Cardinals, 72		
Blue, Tigers, 72		
Carey, Pirates, 71		
Johnston, Dodgers, 66		

Leading Base Stealers.	Player-Club.	S.B.
Slater, Browns, 32		
Williams, Browns, 26		
Carey, Pirates, 24		
Young, Giants, 16		
Hornsbey, Cardinals, 14		

Leading Major League Hitters.	Player-Club.	G. A. B. R. H. Pct.
Slater, St. L., 83 345 78 145 420		
Cobb, Detroit, 72 283 59 112 390		
Speaker, Cleve., 72 268 51 97 362		
Heilmann, Det., 79 309 61 110 356		
Miller, Phila., 74 281 50 99 352		

NATIONAL LEAGUE.	Player-Club.	G. A. B. R. H. Pct.
Hornsbey, St. L., 83 345 78 145 420		
Hollock, Chi., 81 310 42 113 365		
Bigbee, Pitts., 78 316 54 114 361		
Johnston, Bkn., 79 319 66 114 357		
Grimes, Hl., 75 272 54 97 357		

Yesterday's Home-Run Hitters.	Player-Club.	No. Total
Heilmann, Detroit, 2		16
Veach, Detroit, 1		8

NATIONAL LEAGUE.	Player-Club.	No. Total
Mitchell, Bkn., 1		3
Groh, N. Y., 1		2
League total, 2		5
American League, 254		
National League, 271		

WALTER SCHMIDT PLANS TO JOIN PIRATE TEAM	MODESTO, Cal., July 14.—
Walter Schmidt, star catcher, will report to the Pittsburgh Pirates to finish the present season as soon as Judge Landis reinstates him, he announced here today on receipt of a telegram from Manager Bill McKeechne, of the Pirates, agreeing to his price to catch the balance of the season.	

Jake Hits Poorly.	"Baby Doll" Bill Jacobson, the mammoth outfielder with the Browns, is not hitting this year and has to spend many days on the bench on that account. Jake is a brilliant fielder, though, and the Browns lose little in that department when he is in the lineup.
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A Night Affair.	The proposed Benny Leonard-Lew Tindler contest for the world's lightweight championship at Jersey City, July 27, will be fought at night, not in the afternoon as some stories have had it. This has been determined by Tex Rickard, promoting the battle.
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LOOKING 'EM OVER

By - - - LOUIS A. DOUGHER

UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS.

EDDIE AINSMITH, once a battery partner for the eminent Walter Johnson in some of the greatest days of that eminent diamond personage, is up to his old tricks, though he is now catching for Frank Riskey's St. Louis Cardinals. Eddie just will block 'em off at the plate. He did that little thing the other day, bringing an official protest from President Ebbets, of the Brooklyn club. John Heydler, bossing the National League, will probably do nothing at all.

De Berry, Brooklyn's catcher, attempted to score from third on a fly by Tommy Griffith. Jack Smith, the Cardinal's outfielder, hurled the ball toward the plate. As De Berry approached the plate he found his way completely blocked by Ainsmith, who had not yet received the throw from the field. In order not to spike the catcher, De Berry jumped over his legs and, naturally, failed to touch the plate. Before he could do so, Ainsmith received the ball and tagged him out. De Berry was then on his way to the bench and when Bill Klem called him out the Dodgers raised a fine howl. Now President Ebbets has lodged a protest.

Under the rules in the book a base runner cannot be blocked off a base by any player not in possession of the ball. Under the rules as actually used any catcher can block off a runner at the plate, despite section 5 of rule 54.

A Good Blocker.

EDDIE AINSMITH is a formidable blocker at the plate. He is endowed with tremendous strength, being put up like an ancient Greek athlete or a Roman gladiator. It is almost impossible to upset him when he sets himself on the base path.

When with the Washington club Ainsmith blocked off many a runner, showing that the custom of the National League is also to be seen in the American League. It is, therefore, old stuff for Ainsmith, this blocking off a runner.

There are two ways to abolish this custom, which should be abolished for the good of the game. The first and easiest is for the umpires to be instructed by their bosses to call all runners safe when thus blocked off as De Berry appears to have been by Ainsmith in St. Louis.

There is another way used by certain athletes here and there. It is to go right in and rip the blocking catcher's legs with the spikes. Ty Cobb has used this method for years and he is not alone, either. If the umpire refuses to force the catcher to live up to the rule as in the book the runner can make his own way and will seldom need more than one exhibition. After that he will have plenty of room.

What Cobb Did Here.

HAVING mentioned Ty Cobb's willingness to use his spikes to evade a blocking catcher, it is but fair to relate what he did here the other day. It shows that Cobb uses a lot of sense in running the bases and is not especially cruel.

Turkey Brower was playing first base against the Tigers when Ty Cobb was tossed out by Donie Bush. As Cobb approached the bag he saw that Brower, who is not a Joe Judge around that bag, had one of his dogs covering com-

RECENT TENNIS AT WIMBLEDON MARKED ERA

Women's Event Was Carefully Watched Everywhere, As Will Be Future Ones.

Probably no sporting event has ever aroused more interest throughout the world than the women's tennis battle at Wimbledon last week. There is no question that tennis is the most universally played game, because the result of this struggle for the woman's title was awaited in all countries.

It marked a new era in sport. The order of interest was reversed. Where formerly the fair spectators sat in the stands and paid homage to the hero, here was a case of the whole world, masculine and feminine, anxiously anticipating the outcome of a match between two young women.

Next month the first international track and field meet for women athletes will be held in Paris. These games, with entries from the United States, England, France, and several other countries, bring athletic competition among women to equal importance with the athletic activities of the male of the species.

The modern Amazon has taken a prominent place in the athletic world.

First on Record.

Wednesday's postponement of play in the open golf tourney at Skokie was the first in the history of American golf.

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BROWNIES HERE TOMORROW; SOX CLOSE SERIES TODAY

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

Tomorrow come the doctory St. Louis Browns, eager to make a killing in their four games with Zeb Milan's gang. The Browns are still hanging on grimly to first place and it is quite beyond argument that they expect to strengthen that grip before leaving the Capital. They have a wide margin now over the Griffs on the season's play, six out of eight, and the odds will favor them. However, it is possible for the Griffins to throw a fine young monkey wrench into the St. Louis machinery by taking at least two of the four games to be played on this visit. Those two wins might knock the Browns out of first place.

The Browns have at least two pitching pests to shoot in against Zeb Milan's gang. They are first and foremost Urban Shocker, whose spitter always has a tendency to make the Griffs curl up and die. Second, they have Hubert Schuchmeister, Pruet's fresh from the University of Missouri, whose tantalizingly slow left-hand delivery good them on their several heads not so long ago.

Shocker is an iron man. Though worked hard in the Yankee series, he is certain to pitch effectively here. Pruet was wild as a hawk the other day in New York, but he also whiffed the formidable Babe Ruth whenever the latter strode to the pan. This Pruet is quite as tough a nut for the Griffs as the veteran Shocker.

George Sider, leading the league by a wide margin for the batting championship, is in fine shape and sure to be seen at first base where he is the most brilliant performer in the major leagues today.

At second base the Browns have the most promising new player in this league in Marty McManus. This youngster was a failure at third base last season, but as a second baseman this year he is all the doctor ordered and then some. He has played wonderful ball in every game the Griffs have seen him perform and he will quite likely keep up the good work here once more.

Frank Ellerbe is suffering from a weak knee and may not be at his old berth on the hot corner. In that case, will be Gene Robertson, a St. Louis home boy with talent.

Not the least attraction with the Browns is Kenneth Williams, the slugging outfielder. Williams is not trying for home runs every time up now. He found that interfering with his batting average and so now he is manufacturing safeties of all kinds, with now and then a circuit clot.

Manager Milan hopes to prove a stumbling block to the Browns on this visit and, without the services of Jezebel Tecumseh Zachary, who has a sore elbow on his flipping side, Zeb will send Johnson, McGride, Francis and Brillheart against the Mound City troupe. With Zachary, these are the best pitchers on the ball club.

Great bogs of rain drowned out the White Sox and Griffs in the fifth inning of yesterday's game and hostilities were called off with the score 1 to 1. One game is booked for today, the postponed contest being played on August 21.

Ferdie Schupp and possibly Brillheart will be the opposing slingers today. Schupp has done some pretty good work since joining the White Sox, and, when not walking every other batsman, is a tough guy out there on the hill. He defeated the Griffs when they were in Chicago a month ago.

It was tough on Roger Peckinpaugh to have that game end in four innings yesterday. Roger came up in the first and busted a triple into the corner of right field, scoring on Rice's long fly to Mostil. Now that triple won't appear in the records.

Hooper and Falk may join Peck in shedding tears, for in the second

Probable Line-ups For White Sox Contest

WHITE SOX.	GRIFFMEN.
Johnson, ss.	Bush, 3b.
Mulligan, 3b.	Peck, ss.
Collins, 2b.	Rice, cf.
Hooper, rf.	Judge, 1b.
Mostil, cf.	Brower, rf.
Falk, lf.	Goebel, rf.
Sheely, 1b.	Shanks, lf.
Schalk, c.	Harris, 2b.
Yaryan, c.	Gharitty, c.
Leverette, p.	Chenich, c.
Robertson, p.	Johnson, p.
Schupp, p.	Zachary, p.
Davenport, p.	Brillheart, p.
Blankenship, p.	Erickson, p.
Courtney, p.	Phillips, p.
	Turk, p.
	Youngblood, p.

Game starts at 3:45 o'clock.

frame Hooper crashed a double to right field and came in when Falk slammed a single to left. That tied the score and that's how things stood when the thunder and the lightning and the rain appeared.

With the count three and two on Judge in the fourth the game was halted for eighteen minutes during which Capt. Tim Jordan's black brigade completely covered the infield with the tarpaulin. Hardly had they done their work when the rain ceased and they had to take it off again.

Yaryan opened the fifth with a rousing triple to the fence in left center and then came the real storm, blowing right through the stands and soaking all the fair ladies until they looked—well, never mind, it was a great view for the worldly-minded. You know how it is with those light summer dresses and everything.

The second outburst was so rapid that the tarpaulin remained where it was in left field and lakes and rivers, rivulets, and just ordinary creeks soon replaced the playing field. No more baseball for the day.

PROMOTER OFFERS COIN FROM BOUT TO VETERANS

NEW YORK, July 14.—James M. Butterley, of the Academy Athletic Club, is the first promoter to enter the field for the heavyweight championship bout between Jack Dempsey and Harry Wills. Butterley offers 50 per cent of the gate to the principals and the remainder to be divided between the club and the world war veterans, the latter to get 30 per cent.

Experts at Odds.

Ringside experts seem to be at odds as to whether Harry Greb defeated Tommy Loughran or Tommy Loughran defeated Harry Greb the other night in Philadelphia. Apparently a draw might be a good decision.

Browns Come Next.

Lee Fohl leads his St. Louis Browns into town after the present series with the White Sox ends. They have four games booked here.

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